



COUNCILMEMBER JIM MADAFFER

N E W S R E L E A S E

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Statement by Councilmember Jim Madaffer Condemning the City Attorney for Failing to Protect Children

I am disgusted and revolted by City Attorney Michael Aguirre's lack of concern about the safety of our youth and I condemn him for preventing the City of San Diego from enacting Megan's Law. Enough is enough.

For years I have championed the cause of establishing Megan's Law in San Diego in order to protect our children from sexual predators. While serving as Chair of the City Council's Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee (PS&NS) I docketed the Megan's Law issue for the November 16, 2005 meeting. At that meeting the PS&NS Committee members directed the City Attorney to draft an ordinance that prohibits sex offenders from being on or within 300 feet of a public or private school for children, a center or facility that provides day care or children's services, libraries, video arcades, playgrounds or parks and amusement centers. The City Attorney was also asked to provide information about more aggressive living restrictions and legal issues with respect to current state law allowing local governments to include additional restricted sites and their parameters.

To date the City Attorney has provided no information – nothing – despite follow up reminder memos sent on February 10, 2006 and March 7, 2006.

The City Attorney has not fulfilled his duties in providing a draft ordinance. Each day of delay means that children are at greater risk here in the City of San Diego. How do we tell parents that we can't protect their children because one of their elected officials has failed to do his job.

Jim Madaffer
December 17, 2007